Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 DOTE-00 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 FMC-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 DLOS-09 OES-07 AF-10 /050 R

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P R 052237Z MAY 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY INFO USDOC WASHDC COAST GUARD WASHDC 0155

UNCLAS STATE 115490

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, NI

SUBJECT: MARITIME LAW: QUESTION OF RECIPROCAL RIGHTS FOR SURVEY CERTIFICATE

REF: LAGOS 5564

1. THE FOLLOWING IS IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL:

A. NIGERIA IS SIGNATORY TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR SAFETY OF LIFE AT SEA, 1960, AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON LOAD LINES, 1966. THEREFORE, CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY NIGERIA TO VESSELS UNDER ITS FLAG ATTESTING TO COMPLIANCE WITH THE AFOREMENTIONED CONVENTIONS WILL BE HONORED BY THE UNITED STATES. NIGERIAN VESSELS WILL NOT BE REQUIRED TO UNDERGO SURVEYS OR POSSESS U.S. COAST GUARD CERTIFICATES ATTESTING TO COMPLIANCE WITH THOSE CONVENTIONS. UNCLASSIFIED

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B. HOWEVER, ALL FOREIGN-FLAG VESSELS ENTERING U.S. WATERS MAY BE BOARDED AND EXAMINED TO THE EXTENT NECESSARY TO INSURE THAT THEY POSSESS VALID INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATES AND THAT THE VESSELS ARE SUBSTANTIALLY IN COMPLIANCE WITH THOSE CERTIFICATES AND WITH APPLICABLE U.S. REGULATIONS CONCERNING POLLUTION PREVENTION AND NAVIGATION SAFETY.

C. UNDER PRESENT U.S. LAW AND U.S. COAST GUARD REGULATIONS, THE VESSELS LISTED BELOW ARE NOT REQUIRED TO BE INSPECTED AND CERTIFICATED BY THE U.S. COAST GUARD:

SWAMP CHIEF - O.N. 561192 SWAMP MASTER - O.N. 503671 SWAMP QUEEN - O.N. 526446

ADDITIONALLY, THESE THREE VESSELS ARE CURRENTLY PROPERLY DOCUMENTED UNDER U.S. LAWS AS DRILL BARGES. THEY ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR DOCUMENTATION AS SELF-PROPELLED VESSELS. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: MARITIME LAW, SHIP REGISTRY, SURVEYS

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